



NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SEFSC-387

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON
SEA TURTLE BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION**

**20-25 February 1995
Hilton Head, South Carolina**

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June 1996

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MOVEMENT OF SEA TURTLES CAPTURED NEAR HOPPER-DREDGED CHANNELS IN
TEXAS AND LOUISIANA: 1993-1994

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During a two year period, 77 Kemp's ridley (Lepidochelys kempii) and 4 loggerhead (Caretta caretta) turtles were tracked near hopper dredged channels along the upper Texas and western Louisiana coasts using radio, sonic and satellite telemetry. Turtles were captured and released at Bolivar Roads and Sabine Passes in Texas and at Calcasieu Pass, Louisiana. Size and weight of turtles ranged between 26.4-65.6 cm straight carapace length (SCL) and 2.7-42.6 kg. Turtles were tracked as far east as the Florida Keys and to the west off northern Mexico. Tracking data will determine short term fidelity to jettied passes, use of hopper dredged channels and long range movements by turtles. Data from this work will be analyzed and published elsewhere. You may contact the authors directly if you have specific questions.